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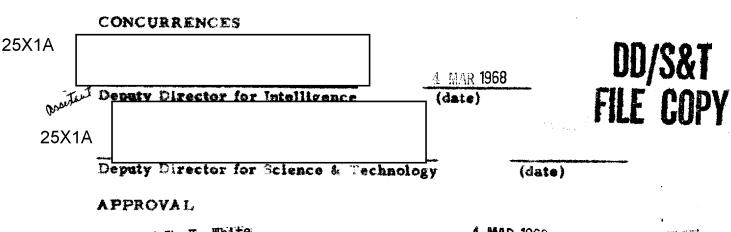*adm - 12.6*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director Comptroller

SUBJECT : Management System for the Community On-Line Intelligence System (COINS) Experiment

1. The attached draft of a management system for COINS was prepared by the Directorate of Intelligence in collaboration with the Directorate of Science and Technology. It overcomes the major objections which the Agency had to the NIPE proposal on this subject. Specifically it avoids implicit reference to a long range planning scheme for COINS and the uncertainty of reference on authorization of a wide range of support activities to which the Executive Agent might resort. It provides for reports to go to the Chairman of CODIB with appeal to the DCI on unresolved problems rather than to the DCI for referral to Chairman of CODIB.

2. I recommend your approval of the attached proposal for COINS and submission of this proposal as an Agency proposal to replace the present NIPE proposal which has been circulated to USIB.

(signed) John M. Clarke
John M. Clarke
Director of Planning,
Programming, and Budgeting

Attachment:
As stated

CONCURRENCES

25X1A

Assistant Deputy Director for Intelligence   4 MAR 1968
                                                     (date)

25X1A

Deputy Director for Science & Technology   (date)

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APPROVAL

/s/ L. K. White   4 MAR 1968
Executive Director-Comptroller   (date)

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MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE
COMMUNITY ON-LINE INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM (COINS) EXPERIMENT

I.   PURPOSE

1.   The purpose of this directive is to establish, under the direction of the DCI, a management structure for the experimental Community On-line Intelligence System (COINS).

2.   The COINS experiment, which was established at the direction of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB), is a feasibility test of interagency information handling making use of interconnected, computer-based files. The purpose of the experiment is to test an on-line system which permits participating agencies to interrogate files held by other agencies as well as its own through a network of query/respond terminals and secure communications circuits.

II.   EXECUTIVE AGENCY AND COINS PROJECT MANAGEMENT

3.   The DCI, in consultation with the USIB, will designate one of the USIB member agencies as the executive agency for the COINS experiment.

4.   The director of the executive agency, in consultation with the DCI, will appoint an executive agent and provide him with the necessary staff and facilities.

5.   Each participating agency will appoint a COINS manager.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

6. The executive agent will be responsible for:

   a. Implementing the COINS experiment in accordance with plans approved by the USIB Committee on Documentation (CODIB), and the commitments already made by the participating agencies to accept portions of the experiment.

   b. Collecting and evaluating the data necessary to establish the benefits, costs, and feasibility of achieving the objectives of the COINS experiment.

   c. Preparing and submitting to the Chairman, CODIB, quarterly progress reports and a final report with recommendations for follow-on action.

7. The COINS managers will be responsible for:

   a. Managing the COINS experiment within their own organizations.

   b. Representing their organizations on all aspects of the COINS experiment.

   c. Providing the information necessary for the submission of quarterly reports and the final report and for coordinating these reports on behalf of their agencies.

IV.   OPERATIONS

8. The COINS executive agent will report to the Chairman, CODIB, and refer unresolved problems to him. If the Chairman, CODIB, is unable to resolve these problems, he will refer them to the DCI.

9. Each participating agency will fund the COINS activities which it has agreed to undertake, including the cost of necessary equipment.

10. The COINS experiment will be completed and a final report submitted to the USIB, through the Chairman, CODIB, no later than 31 December 1969.